continue to play the role assigned to them since the private sector participation will be limited to areas outside the leasehold of CIL, and for specified purposes only.

(d) Private sector participation would augment the resources required for the growth of core sectors of the economy.

Accidents in coal mines

2331. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV 'RAVI': Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of accidents have taken place in the coal mines during the last two years;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the causes of such accidents mine-wise and the number of persons who died in each case; and

(d) what measures have been taken by Government for prevention of such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There have been 116 and 130 fatal accidents involving 120 and 149 fatalities during 1991 and 1992 respectively under the CIL group of mines. The details of the same are as under:—

Causes	No. of fatalities	
	1991	1992
Roof/side fall . .	30	66
Winding in Shaft .	1	2
Transport Machinery	51	46
Other Machinery (CCM Dozer Pump etc.) .	7	8
Explosive . .	5	1
Electricity . .	5	5
Dust Gas etc. .	1	1
Fall of persons and other objects . .	13	13
Misc. . . .	7	7
TOTAL :	120	149

(d) The coal mines under CIL group of mines are worked strictly as per safety provisions contained in Mines Act, 1952 and the Coal Mines Regulations, 1957. Adequate safety measures are provided to workers. Each worker is provided with safety gear such as safety helmets, safety boots, belts, dust masks, self-rescuers etc. They are imparted basic and refresher training in Vocational Training Centres. Presence of noxious gases in underground mines is regularly checked by gas detector. The safety situation is constantly reviewed and monitored at different levels. The Standing Committee on Safety in Coal Mines under the Chairmanship of Minister-in-charge of Cial regularly reviews the overall safety situation in coal mines and recommends short-term and long-term measures to further improve the safety standards in the coal mines.